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PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN



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TAHOE LT

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624 WASHINGTON AVE
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celebrates first birthday



Mr. and Mrs. Morrow honored with reception



Elba Dixie Belles place second in tournament



The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 4

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 11, 2002

1 Section, 12 Pages

County BOE approves personnel changes during "called" meeting

Mark Coale assumes position as principal at Kinston



Mark Coale began his new job as principal at Kinston on Tuesday, July 9. Coale will oversee grades K-12 at the Kinston School facility. His employment was approved by the Coffee County Board of Education during a "called" meeting Monday, July 8.

Elba Water & Electric board meeting reveals Volunteer fee nets \$5,375 for local schools in first month

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba Water & Electric Board - monthly meeting Monday evening was highlighted with the promotion of Terry Pike from "acting" Electric Department Supervisor to Supervisor. The action was taken after a short executive session of the board, called at the request of Chairman Tim Johnson.

The board members approved payment of monthly bills totaling \$36,698.60. This included \$7,635.00 for purchase of new transformers, \$2,303.90 for water chemicals, \$5,089.68 for electricity at pumping stations, etc.; \$42,324.45 for equipment repairs at Goshen Tractor Co.; \$973.92 other chemicals; \$2,189.72 men working; signs; \$5,406.75 electric maintenance; \$5,215.67 water maintenance; \$1,293.21 vehicle repairs and

\$1,618.90 office expenses. Johnson reported that during first month of it being implemented, the utility collected \$5,375 in volunteer \$5.00 donations to aid the local schools. This is about a 50% participation rate and the entire amount is turned over to the schools on a monthly basis.

Board members saw a report indicating the electric department responded to and completed 37 work orders ranging from trimming tree limbs to repairing street lights, connecting and disconnecting street lights, and adding electric service to homes.

The water department responded to 61 work orders dominated with repairing water leaks and installing 15 back flow devices in water lines at homes.

During Monday evening's meeting, the board approved six other personnel matters with each of those passing by a unanimous vote. Each matter involved certified personnel and the following matters were approved:

Please See W&E, Page 3

Elba City Council fails to approve cost of living raise

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council met Monday evening without Mayor James Grimes, who was out of town attending an Electric Cities membership meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Hammond presided over an

uneventful meeting in his absence. Also absent was council member L. M. Burch. The council had no surprises, following the preannounced agenda from beginning to end.

Named to a term on the Elba Recreation Board was Mark Henderson.

The council approved high bids on two levee buy-out houses formerly belonging to the Heiland family, to be moved. The houses are located just outside the levee, on the North side of the Troy Highway. One sold for \$3,855.00 and the other for \$1,855. Donald Hussey & Sons was the successful bidder on both units.

The council failed to approve a cost of living increase for retired employees when there was no motion from any council member. Hammond asked three times if there was a motion to accept the recommendation and pass the resolution, but none

was forthcoming. The cost of living raise has been approved by the town, but must have local approval to be implemented. The cost of the increase to the city would have been \$154.39 per month.

A resolution was approved, agreeing to cooperate with the

Department of Transportation in providing pedestrian safety improvements at various locations within the City of Elba.

Stanley Walker, from the Coffee County Extension Service, offered a resolution, which the council approved, support

ing the program, "Making Academics Count." This project is in cooperation with the State of Alabama, State Board of Education and the local public school systems. By participating in the program, the city agrees to ask potential employees for a transcript of their high school grades and/or high school diploma, sending a clear message to students stressing the importance of staying in school and making good grades.

Monthly bills totaling \$11,828.81 were approved for payment. Major bills included \$3,163.11 for vehicle and equipment repair; \$418.00 for police

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Board of Education filled the vacancy of principal at Kinston Monday evening, July 8, during a called meeting of the board.

With a 4-2 vote, Mark Coale was approved for employment as principal at Kinston High School. Coale will oversee grades K-12 at the school facility.

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram, a motion was made with a second to employ Coale. Board members, Charles Walker, Danny Jernigan, Gene Barksdale and Annette Griswold voted in favor of the motion with board members Scotty Hunko and Jimmy Clark opposing. Board member Robin McKinnon was not present for the meeting.

"It is a great honor to be chosen as principal at Kinston," Coale said following the meeting. "Kinston has a tremendous tradition for excellence, and I am terribly excited about the opportunity given to me."

Coale comes to Kinston with 22 years experience in the education field. Most recently, he served as assistant principal at Highland Home of the Greenshaw County School System. Before that, he was employed with the Coffee County School System as a teacher and coach.

Coale originates from Escambia County and is a high school graduate of T.R. Miller High School. He graduated from Livingston University and completed his post graduate work at Troy State University.

"I can't wait to get started," he said. "I think a lot of the people in Kinston and look forward to working with them."

During Monday evening's meeting, the board approved six other personnel matters with each of those passing by a unanimous vote. Each matter involved certified personnel and the following matters were approved:

Please See CITY, Page 3

* Employ Sandy Reeves as a first grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School;

* Employ Angie Jinnright as a kindergarten teacher at Zion Chapel Elementary School;

* Employ Kristi Hudson as a third grade teacher at Zion Chapel Elementary School;

* Employ Joni Smith as a fifth grade teacher at Zion Chapel Elementary School;

* Employ Linda Gavin as a Librarian at Zion Chapel School; and

* Employ John Donaldson as

head football coach at Zion Chapel High School.

Ingram provided an update on the ball field being constructed through funds provided by Senator Jimmy Holley, Representative Terry Spicer and the Coffee County Commission.

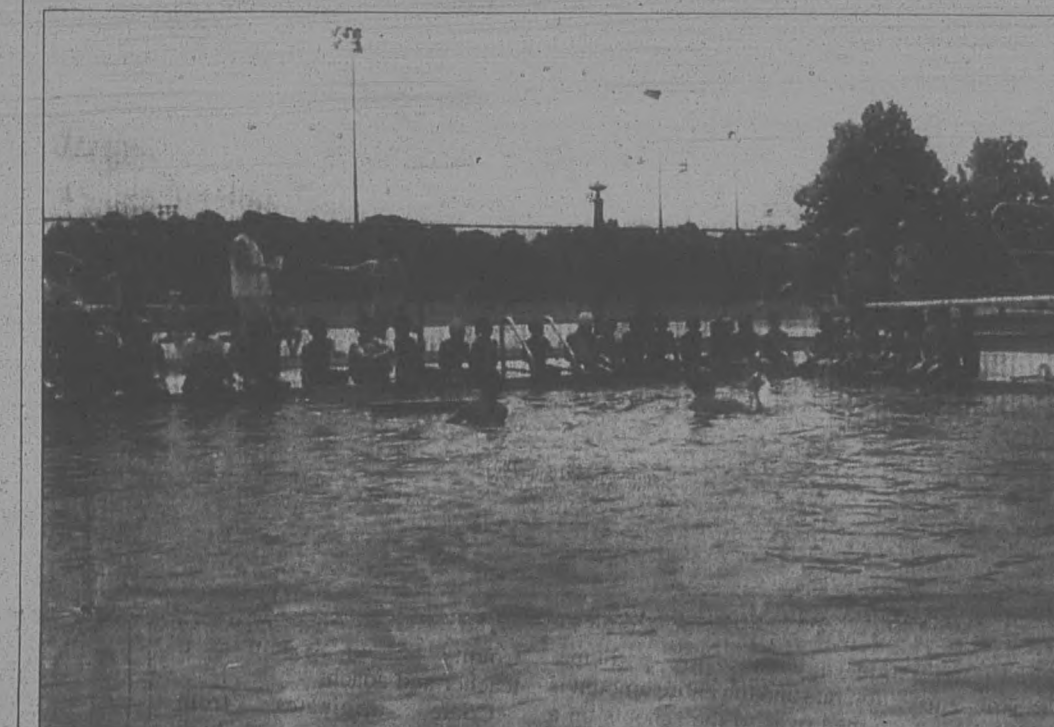
Ingram said the light poles have been put in the ground, and workers currently are marking spots and digging holes for the fence to be put up. Also, she said the person contracted for

the irrigation work is ready to begin his process once the fencing is in place.

In other business, the board approved the bid for copy paper (domestic) to Strickland Paper of Montgomery. The company provided the low bid at \$19.70 per case.

Rejected all bids for the cleaning of carpet and tile at the schools. Based on the bids received, Ingram said she felt this project could be done a different way with better results.

Youngsters learn to swim at Elba City Pool



Many local youngsters recently took advantage of an opportunity to learn to swim as the Elba Recreation Department offered swimming lessons at the city pool. The lessons were taught by the lifeguards at the city pool, and as the photo shows, there was a huge interest as several youngsters attended the week long classes. Throughout the week, the students were taught the basics of swimming. Above, they were able to take turns jumping off the diving board as the course instructors assisted them. The swimming lessons are offered each summer by the recreation department.

Jim Folsom home ready to be moved

County Commission donates land to City of Elba

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission entertained requests Monday morning, July 8, from county residents on two separate issues during the regular bimonthly meeting of the commission.

Jeraldeen Thomas was the first county resident to speak to the commission, and her request involved a house located on county property in Enterprise.

Thomas said she was addressing the commission with a proposal to allow her to live in the house on the county's property next to the old courthouse in Enterprise. She said she would maintain the property with there being no cost to the county.

Thomas said she would abide by any guidelines set by the commission, as well as have insurance coverage just in case something were to happen to that property.

Also, in the event of the commission deciding to do something else with the property, Thomas said she would vacate the house at that time.

Commissioner Bernest Brooks said the county's building authority actually owns the property. He said he was scheduled to attend a meeting of the building authority on Tuesday evening, and he would ask the authority at that time what it would like to do about Thomas' proposal.

The property is located in Commissioner Jim Thompson's district, and he too said he would like to know the building authority's position on the issue before he made a comment.

The next resident to address the commission was a representative for a group of individuals in attendance for Monday's meeting.

Durwood Kelley, a resident of County Road 517, spoke to the commission and requested its help in getting the county road paved.

Another resident of the road spoke to the commission several weeks ago, and at that time everyone agreed that the hold up was residents not signing the deeds.

Kelley said he has been a resident on the road for more than 20 years, and there are 11 families

currently living on the road. "I know we're having trouble getting the deeds signed," he said. "We're asking for your help."

Kelley explained to commissioners a need to have the road paved because of dangerous travel conditions. He said cars can not pass one another on the road because it is so narrow.

Commissioner Bernest Brooks said all deeds have been signed except one on this particular road, and all must be signed before the project can proceed.

Kelley presented the commission with a petition signed by 22 landowners and residents and asked if there is something that can be done to help get that final deed signed.

At that point, Brooks turned to county engineer Randy Tindell for an update on what had been done so far with this road.

"Sounds like we are really close if all but one deed is signed," Tindell said. "We have surveyed this road several times."

He said the proposed route had been moved here and there in an effort to try and satisfy everyone on the road while still maintaining a safe route.

The commission and county engineer agreed to continue working with the residents in trying to find a solution to this issue so the paving project can

Please See CCC, Page 3

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

Still more big companies are getting into the spotlight because of their accounting practices. As usual, a problem gets way out of hand before the American public knows what is happening, and then we over react to the extreme in the other direction. This could very well be the case in the newest whipping boy—Merck, or more precisely Merck's Medco unit. These guys have upset some folks because they counted as income, co-payments paid to drug stores for Merck products, by prescription drug users, as income to Medco. Why? We don't know because they turned around and expended it out as a cost of doing business. It increased the top line, or volume of business, but didn't make one penny of change in their bottom line, or profit. We noted last week our total disgust with companies lying about their money to improve stock prices, etc., but this particular issue doesn't bother us. Our business enters in the advertised price of any ad sold on our monthly income statement. Then if it was sold to an advertising agency that takes discounts (that is how they make their living), we simply make a paid out when they remit a check (less the 15% agency fee). While the two situations are a bit different, the results are the same. We have done this for 40 years without it being questioned, have been through IRS audits and even they have no problem with that accounting method.

Well, all our fishing buddies can relax. After 12 years of being entirely too busy to go fishing, we took July 4th and 5th as fishing days with our two grown sons but didn't get all the fish! The three of us went to some of our old stomping grounds in the Florida Panhandle expecting to load the boat with big 'ol bream and shellcrackers. Or course, we didn't load the boat, and the results were not "big 'ol bream". The weather has been dry and that water is so clear, you can almost read a newspaper in three feet of river water. That is our excuse for not catching any fish... they saw us coming. Even though the boys wanted this to be their treat for daddy, fishing is an expensive sport and daddy insisted on paying part of the expenses. That brought on some math figuring while driving home Friday afternoon, and the results are less than favorable. We divided the number of fish caught into the dollars we personally spent and the results are, well, fish are much cheaper in the store. If you are not a fishing fan, you don't know these costs and if you are such a fan, we don't need to explain. However, you can bet we didn't come home detailing these costs to Hedy who had stayed home and worked, both cleaning the house on the holiday and back at the office on Friday. While she might say she understood, it would just mean "don't you dare say anything about my spending when the credit card bill(s) come in next month!" Anyway, the trip was worth the cost... being away from the daily grind and spending time with ones children, even if they are adults with families of their own. We enjoyed the outdoors and matching wits with the fish. More importantly, we reminisced about happenings during the many hours spent on those rivers with each other and with friends back in the days when they were little boys and we were much younger.

The results are in and announced in a news article on the front page, but about 50% of the Elba utility users agreed to the \$5.00 volunteer donation to the local school which was added to the monthly utility bills last month. The Elba schools got \$5,375 from the first month donations. This will pay for keeping a full teacher unit (and a little more) in the Elba schools. We have had some people comment that they couldn't afford to give the money and that is okay... it is strictly between them and the utility clerk who marks their name off the list. Others have expressed differing reasons for not giving and that too is their business and they surely didn't have to tell us their reasons or even that they were not giving. We hope the coding change on the monthly bills will clear up some of the confusion this month. With two different charges carrying the same coding, it could get confusing to anyone.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of July 4, 2002, through July 7, 2002. They were: Mary Lou Smith, Marie Pouncey, Tremeyne Warren, Jeff Odum, Anita Roberts, Maude Gentry, Wanda Messick, Anita Johnson, Blended Dewberry, Austin Lee, Eva Smith, Jonathan White, James Senn Jr., Ruth Bryant and Annie Slawson.

THE ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.

is now accepting applications for an
Administrative Assistant.

Applicants must have High School diploma, 2 years experience in clerical work, experience in use of personal computer and professional software applications. Must also be a resident of the Elba Area. Deadline is July 12. Application Available at Chamber Office.

The Elba Clipper

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John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER
Linda M. Hodge - EDITOR
Ricky Muller - SPORTS
Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year
6 Months - \$9, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$15 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

2002 Blue Jeans for Babies set for Friday, Aug. 23

For every 1,000 babies born in Alabama more than ten will die before their first birthday. That is why the March of Dimes is engaged in a challenging struggle: the fight against birth defects, low birth weight and infant death.

On Friday, Aug. 23, businesses throughout Alabama will be participating in Blue Jeans for Babies. This is an event where employers allow their employees to wear blue jeans (or khaki pants) to work and they are also asked to purchase the official Blue Jeans for Babies T-shirt.

For those that do not purchase a T-shirt, also offered are Blue Jeans for Babies buttons. Many employees choose to wear both the T-shirt and button.

In Elba, please call the Elba Chamber of Commerce (897-3125) to order T-shirts and/or buttons for the 2002 Blue Jeans for Babies Day. Orders must be received before July 22nd, and shirts will be delivered a few days before the event.

The top businesses participating in the Blue Jeans for Babies event will be recognized.



Kaye Whitworth (left), director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce, and Christine Green (right), City of Elba employee, display a Blue Jeans for Babies T-shirt being sold for this year's campaign. The City of Elba is just one of the local agencies joining the March of Dimes in its fight against birth defects, low birth weight, and infant death.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, July 1, 2002, investigated the following incidents: three for assault, one damage to property, one disorderly conduct, one residential arrest, one burglary, one theft, one domestic violence, two for theft of property, one criminal mischief, and one harassment.

The following arrests were made: one for assault, one for disorderly conduct, one for resisting arrest, and one for burglary.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: three for violation of the seat belt law, eight for speeding, one for an improper muffler, one for driving with a revoked driver's license, and one for no proof of insurance.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:
MONDAY, JULY 1 - River stage - 5.02 feet (6:18 a.m.); Minor accident reported in the parking lot of Mr. Henry's (7:50 a.m.); Burglary (in progress) reported at 558 County Road 401 (9:21 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1623 Caroline St. (11:15 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JULY 2 - River stage - 5.62 feet (6:18 a.m.); Power reported near 2551 Taylor Mill Road (11:10 p.m.); Disturbance reported at the corner of Jones and Reynolds St. (11:15 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3 - River stage - 5.87 feet (6:18 a.m.); Minor accident reported in the parking lot of Mr. Henry's (7:50 a.m.); Burglary (in progress) reported at 558 County Road 401 (9:21 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1623 Caroline St. (11:15 p.m.).

CALL
CRIMESTOPPERS
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CRIME
REMAIN
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BULLETIN BOARD

- SOCIAL SECURITY REP. Conference 1st Tues. 12:30-1:30 Call FREE 1-800-772-1213
- ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
- ELBA MINISTRIAL ASSN. - Tues. 4 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
- ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday 6 p.m. City Hall
- WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. - City Hall
- GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church enter on side on W. Davis St. Maggie Garrett Classroom
- COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton
- LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center
- ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs. 5:30 p.m. - Supr. Office
- AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
- MASONIC LODGE 170 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month 7 p.m.
- BAND BOOSTERS - 1st Mon. 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School
- VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri 8-12 noon @ 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5558
- COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. 3 p.m. - Club House
- COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise
- AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 1st Tuesday at noon, City Hall Conference Room
- AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month
- CIVIL AIR PATROL - Every Monday 7 p.m. - Elba Airport, Briscoe hangar
- ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - 1st & 3rd Monday 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room

THURSDAY, JULY 4 - River stage - 5.08 feet (6:17 a.m.); Alarm activated at Windham Lumber Co. (11:33 a.m.); Possible civil disturbance (fighting) reported at Hawkins-Williams Park (9:20 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JULY 5 - River stage - 3.95 feet (8:02 a.m.); Alarm activated at Subway (8:53 a.m.); Possible civil disturbance (fighting) reported on Martin Luther King Dr. (6:28 p.m.); Loud and excessive music reported at Elba Villas Building C (10:36 p.m.).

SATURDAY, JULY 6 - River stage - 5.41 feet (6:14 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1404 Reese Ave. (7:42 a.m.); Disturbance reported in parking lot of Kelly's Bar-B-Q (1:37 p.m.); Alarm activated at -1585 Caroline St. (6:34 p.m.); Alarm activated at Kelley's Packing House, Building A (6:39 p.m.).

SUNDAY, JULY 7 - Alarm activated at 1233 Jones Circle (5:52 a.m.); Alarm activated at 1207 Jones Circle (5:56 a.m.); River stage - 6.95 feet (6:01 a.m.); Alarm activated at Week's Tire (2:41 p.m.); Alarm activated at Ace Hardware (3:36 p.m.); Burglary reported at 1450 Hickman Ave. (5:05 p.m.); Routine activity.

Our country city friends...A guest editorial

by Iris Davis

You'd think moving from the country to the city you wouldn't have the wildlife which always appears in our side or back yard. Since moving to Elba a few weeks ago, we have often been greeted with beautiful deer munching grass or just lying down and watching the people go and come.

A glance from the window toward our back yard always

holds a shocking surprise when our friendly deer are moving through the Highland Drive neighborhood. They are always so glamorous and regal with heads held high, tails switching, or stamping their hooves to warn intruders in their territories. Usually they stay long enough for my daughter to run to the other end of the house to tell us she sees them or for us to run tell her we see them.

They never disturb or harm anyone, although coming home late one night, we did observe the deer munching happily on the neighbor's azalea bushes. I guess they thought they needed trimming, or it was a tasty treat for them.

Surprises always show up in our lives when God's wonderful creations show their faces. There should always be room in our daily lives to appreciate the unique animals of nature.

So if you are in our neighborhood, drive carefully and watch out for our city deer friends that walk and sneak up and down Highland Drive any time of the day or night.

From Seeds of
Sorrow Grow
Flowers of
Hope.

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The Elba Clipper

Telephone 897-2823

*Source: Alabama Newspaper Readership Survey, National Research, December, 1999. Base: 5,920,000 adults age 18 and older who live in Alabama.

IT'S IN THE PAPER.

CCC

(Continued from Page One)

move forward.

The commission helped the City of Elba move forward with its plans of creating a tourist attraction with the birth home of former Governor Jim Folsom by agreeing to donate a piece of land adjacent to the old Coffee County Jail to the city.

Mobley said the Folsom home is ready to be moved to the location beside the old jail in Elba where the city has agreed to preserve the property. He said the City of Elba requested that the commission donate the piece of land adjacent to the jail so the city could be responsible for the upkeep of that entire area.

"This house will be a tourist attraction for Coffee County," Brooks said. "I feel it will be an advantage to the county to have this kind of attraction."

The commission unanimously approved a motion to grant the piece of property to the City of Elba for the purpose of the area being used as a tourist attraction.

During Monday's meeting, Commissioner Brooks entered a motion that the commission chairmanship begin a rotation with those commissioners who have never served as chairman.

His motion indicated that the rotation would return to regular order (District 1-7) after those who have never served were offered an opportunity to serve. Commissioner Robert Stephens supplied a second for the motion.

"Exactly what is the reason for wanting to do this?" asked Thompson.

"I want to be chairman."

* Awarded the precast bridge

week. Just recently she was

demoted in her job of employ-

ment and transferred, because

they found out she attended

college. She also lost her moth-

er recently. I would just like to

encourage her to follow her

dreams on becoming a mission-

ary in Russia.

Sincerely,

Tammy Mehaffey

homes and businesses, part of

an ongoing project throughout

the city.

Income wise the utility is showing a positive increase in electric income and a decrease in expenses. The increase is due to higher residential and commercial usage of electricity. A large part of the \$130,000 drop in electric expenses was due to the huge charge off due to the Dorsey Trailer bankruptcy last year.

The water system is showing a profit this year for the first time in many years, due to the water rate increase of several months ago. Water department operating expenses are about the same as the previous year while depreciation is down about \$10,000.

The board voted to purchase two new hand held computer units used for reading meters. These are to replace the aging units now in use and will cost \$3,540 for the computers, their respective charging cradles and the maintenance contract. Board members were told the obsolete units would have to be replaced anyway if (when) they malfunction, because the parts are no longer available. The new units also reportedly have a faster download time to the system main frame and are less likely to freeze up and cause a loss of all stored meter reading.

CITY

(Continued from Page One)

respectively. Incident reports

totalled 58 and DUI arrest were

at two. There were ten drug

arrests and 42 criminal arrests

during June. There were nine

automobile accident investiga-

tions. Police cars traveled

15,785 miles during the month.

The department received 1012

calls for assistance or informa-

tion during this time period.

The animal control officer

presented a six month summary

of his activities through June of

2002. During this time there

were 281 dogs in the shelter. Of

this number 76 were adopted, 16

picked up by their owners and

157 euthanized. 226 of the dogs

were from Elba, 18 from New

Brockton, two from Kinston and

eight from Coffee County.

Occasionally animals are just

left at the shelter by private citi-

zens and that makes up the bal-

ance of the 281. In addition 14

cats were left at the shelter and

all were adopted. Also one bird

was tested (negative) for West

Nile disease.

SHARE YOUR
VIEWS - WRITE A
LETTER TO THE
EDITOR

Brooks said, "I have served nine years on the commission and feel I bring a good list of credentials to the commission."

Of the current commission, commissioners Brooks, Thompson and Doug Dalrymple have not served as chairman.

"Many commissions have a rotation law, and I think it is a good policy to have," Stephens said.

Commission chairman Tom Grimsley said he felt this issue needed some further study, therefore, he made a motion to table Brooks' motion to allow the commissioners more time to study the issue before making a decision. This motion received a second from Commissioner Kayo Lewis and passed with a 4-3 vote.

Commissioners Grimsley, Lewis, Thompson and Dalrymple voted in favor of tabling the issue with commissioners Brooks, Stephens and Linda Westbrook voting in opposition.

In other business, the commission unanimously approved a resolution to get an appraisal for a piece of property on County Road 272.

The next meeting of the Coffee County Commission will be Monday, July 22, at 9 a.m. in the community room at the county complex in New Brockton.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Linda,

I would like to recognize a special lady in my life, my mother, Dean Luther. She is 58 years old. While holding a full time job, she also attends night classes at ESIC. She is the mother to her 18-year-old grandson, and takes care of an elderly lady three nights a

week. Just recently she was

demoted in her job of employ-

ment and transferred, because

they found out she attended

college. She also lost her moth-

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Income wise the utility is showing a positive increase in electric income and a decrease in expenses. The increase is due to higher residential and commercial usage of electricity. A large part of the \$130,000 drop in electric expenses was due to the huge charge off due to the Dorsey Trailer bankruptcy last year.

The water system is showing a profit this year for the first time in many years, due to the water rate increase of several months ago. Water department operating expenses are about the same as the previous year while depreciation is down about \$10,000.

The board voted to purchase two new hand held computer units used for reading meters. These are to replace the aging units now in use and will cost \$3,540 for the computers, their respective charging cradles and the maintenance contract. Board members were told the obsolete units would have to be replaced anyway if (when) they malfunction, because the parts are no longer available. The new units also reportedly have a faster download time to the system main frame and are less likely to freeze up and cause a loss of all stored meter reading.

respectively. Incident reports

totalled 58 and DUI arrest were

at two. There were ten drug

arrests and 42 criminal arrests

during June. There were nine

automobile accident investiga-

tions. Police cars traveled

15,785 miles during the month.

The department received 1012

calls for assistance or informa-

tion during this time period.

The animal control officer

presented a six month summary

of his activities through June of

2002. During this time there

were 281 dogs in the shelter. Of

this number 76 were adopted, 16

picked up by their owners and

157 euthanized. 226 of the dogs

were from Elba, 18 from New

Brockton, two from Kinston and

eight from Coffee County.

Occasionally animals are just

left at the shelter by private citi-

zens and that makes up the bal-

ance of the 281. In addition 14

cats were left at the shelter and

all were adopted. Also one bird

was tested (negative) for West

Nile disease.

SHARE YOUR

VIEWS - WRITE A

LETTER TO THE

EDITOR

components bid to Choctaw, Inc. of Montgomery. Choctaw provided the low bid at \$58,656.75.

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Bluff Springs will celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, July 14

Bluff Springs Baptist Church will celebrate their homecoming on Sunday, July 14, 2002. Following the homecoming a revival will be held July 15-17, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Hubert McWaters will bring the message. Music director will be Betty Senn, and the pianist will be Ann Stallings. Bluff Springs Baptist Church is located on County Road 304.

Homecoming planned for Sunday, July 14, at Chestnut Grove Methodist Church

Chestnut Grove Methodist Church will celebrate its homecoming on Sunday, July 14 at 11:00 a.m. following after the service. Martha Baxter will bring the message.

Greater New Springfield Missionary Baptist Church to celebrate homecoming July 14

Greater New Springfield Missionary Baptist Church in New Brockton will celebrate homecoming on July 14, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. Revival services will be held July 15-19 at 7:15 p.m. night.

The Voice of Praise to be in concert at Mt. Zion Baptist Church on Saturday, July 13

Mt. Zion Baptist Church (Missions Cross Roads) will hold a gospel singing on July 13, 2002 at 7:00. Featuring The

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Ron Stallard
Elba Church Of God

Success or tragedy

A man named Gary lived a life where money was everything to him. His father was the same way. He had been poor. He had been shamed by a rich relative.

He decided he would do better. Someday he would own everything. The relative had. Everything he did was to get more money. Gary and his family were successful and after many years of living a life to prosper themselves they became rich and powerful. Gary married his high school sweetheart. Gary's "reach for success" caused a divorce. Their two young sons hung in the balance. After many years of competing for their sons, Gary's money won out. When they became old enough to choose, his son's decided to stay with him. Five days before his oldest son's graduation he was killed on his new motorcycle. It was most tragic. Money was really important to Gary. It bought him a second wife from one of his best friends. She had money in her eyes too. They had two children and she left him. She took half of everything. His children suffered. He was not happy. Gary's quest for more money and more land did not lead to happiness. One day he was riding his motorcycle and he fell off in the road. He hit the road side with a high speed. He was killed. The money he had rolled the grass cut into him. He remembered a decision he had made. Money deals, lost love, separation from his children, divorce, and tragedy. When he finally came to a stop he laid at the foot of his son's grave. That is when Gary figured out his quest for money had only brought him sadness. He had lost things money could not buy. All the times that he had made a man really happy was gone. He also realized that God had spared him and had given him another chance. Now Gary lives a happy life and money is only colored paper to him. He has received a second chance from the Great God he now serves. Please look at your life and decide what is really important to you. Make everyday count and enjoy your children family and friends. Remember God has given them to you.

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIC 897-2006

Scripture: Daniel 6:1-26

***Thinking of you, praying for you. Edd. Manning, Alendi

Cambell, Lena Sims, The Tillis

and MacBride families, Rev. E. Magwood, O.B. Daniels,

Catherine Johnson, Rev. Henry

Ewing Jr. and Rev. J.R. Parks.

***Birthdays and Wedding

Anniversaries: Abdel and

Falisha Bilal-wedding anniversary.

Steve Wright-July 17;

Patricia Folmar-July 18; Melvin

Cross-July 21; and Anthony

Brooks-July 23.

***Salon Baptist Church in

Louisville, Ala. will hold a

revival July 15-19 at 7:00 p.m.

nightly. Rev. A.R. Williams will

be the evangelist.

***Sweet Pilgrim Baptist

Church in Brundidge, Ala. will

hold a revival July 29-August 2

at 7:00 p.m. nightly. Rev. A.R.

Williams will be the evangelist.

***Springfield Missionary

Baptist Church in New

Brockton, Ala. will celebrate

their homecoming on July 14,

2002. Rev. W. Curry will be the

evangelist.

***The Dixie Echoes will be in

concert at the Dixon Center on

the LBW Campus, Saturday, July

13.

***The Dixie Echoes will be at

the Dixon Center on the LBW

Jr. College campus in Andalusia

on July 13, 2002 beginning at 7

p.m. For more information call

Don Cotton at 334-222-6120.

***College Street Assembly of

God Church (1506 W. College

St. in Enterprise, Ala.) will host

a Kids Crusade on Sunday, July

14 from 6:00-7:30. July 15-July

17 from 6:30-8:00. For more

information call 894-6371.

***Damascus Baptist Church

vacation Bible school is scheduled

for July 12-14.

***Elba Baptist Church in

New Brockton will hold

Vacation Bible School July 12 at

7:00 p.m., July 13 from 9:00-

14 from 6:00-7:30. July 15-July

17 from 6:30-8:00. For more

information call 894-6371.

***Gospel Singing to be held at

Elba Zion Missionary Baptist

Church in Elba will hold a

gospel singing on Sunday,

August 4, 2002 at 3:00 p.m.

Featuring Joseph Brown, The

D.C. Choral Ensemble, and

Friends.

***Elba First Assembly of God to

have guest speaker Sunday, July 14

Rev. J. C. Burks will be the

guest speaker at the morning

worship service.

***Revival services planned at

Jack Assembly of God

on Sunday, July 14.

***Alberton Baptist Church will

be observing Homecoming on

Sunday, July 14, with Bro. Jeff

Fletcher bringing the 11 a.m.

message. Lunch will follow in

the fellowship hall. A singing

will be held in the afternoon.

***Revival services will be held

at New Hope Baptist Church

on Sunday, July 14.

***A revival will be held at New

Hope Baptist Church July 14,

2002. Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

and 6:00 p.m., Monday

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The

speaker will be Bro. Dan Raley,

pastor of First Baptist Church in

Scottdale. The music leader will

be Dewayne Danner.

The Dixie Echoes to be in concert at the Dixon Center on the LBW Campus, Saturday, July 13

The Dixie Echoes will be at the Dixon Center on the LBW Jr. College campus in Andalusia on July 13, 2002 beginning at 7 p.m. For more information call Don Cotton at 334-222-6120.

College Street Assembly Of God Church to host Kids Crusade

College Street Assembly of God Church (1506 W. College St. in Enterprise, Ala.) will host a Kids Crusade on Sunday, July 14 from 6:00-7:30. July 15-July 17 from 6:30-8:00. For more information call 894-6371.

Damascus Baptist Church Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 12-14

Damascus Baptist Church in New Brockton will hold Vacation Bible School July 12 at 7:00 p.m., July 13 from 9:00-

Gospel Singing to be held at Elba Zion Missionary Baptist Church

Elba Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Elba will hold a gospel singing on Sunday, August 4, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. Featuring Joseph Brown, The D.C. Choral Ensemble, and Friends.

Elba First Assembly of God to have guest speaker Sunday, July 14

Elba First Assembly of God Church and Pastor Roy E. Davis invites everyone to come worship with them Sunday, July 14.



ENTERPRISE STATE JUNIOR COLLEGE'S 2002 FIRST IMPRESSIONS TEAM (FIT), student orientation leaders, recently completed the Southern Regional Orientation Workshop at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, La. The workshop was held from June 24-28. Over 1200 college students from 62 colleges and universities represented nine southern states in the workshop. FIT performed a cheer for roll call, attended a mini-Mardi Gras, performed their Wild Weevil Bill's Round-up Skit (this year's theme is a western round-up), and attended workshops to learn how to improve ESJC's orientation program and how to enhance their leadership skills. Pictured are the FIT members who participated in the workshop. On the front row, from left to right, are FIT sponsor Dr. Betty Cully (standing), Lydia Phelps of Hartford, Alane Boswell of Enterprise, and FIT sponsor Dr. Sue Baum (standing). On the second row, from left to right, are Sara Holley and Penny Medley of Enterprise, and Jessica Crawford of Hartford. On the third row, from left to right, are Heather Johnson of Paxton, Florida, Jessica Holbert of Enterprise, and Heather Dixon of Geneva. On the fourth row, from left to right, are Kelley Wriston of Ozark and Tracey Green of New Brockton. On the fifth row, from left to right, are Robert Mince of Midland City, Justin Jackson of Geneva, and Garry Guilford of Bellwood. On the sixth row, from left to right, are Timothy Brannon of Hartford, Todd Chancellor of Chancellor, and David Eddins of Coffee Springs.

Church Directory

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Lott, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m. BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. J.E. Wesley, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. J.E. Wesley, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Tom Senn, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m. BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Robert Davis, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH Rev. Martha Baxter, Pastor Sunday School.....9:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....10:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST E. R. Hill, Minister Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. William Frank, Pastor Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m. DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.	EANON BAPTIST CHURCH Bernard Strickland, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. ELBA CHURCH OF GOD Rev. Ron Stallard, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY Rev. J.E. Wesley, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY Rev. J.E. Wesley, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY Rev. J.E. Wesley, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY Rev. J.E. Wesley, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH Danny Sherrer, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m. IN ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINSTON Danny Bradshaw, Pastor Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS CHURCH Andy Marler, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. GREAT NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Willie L. Peterson, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC CHURCH W. R. Ellison, Pastor Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. RAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rev. John L. Baxter, Pastor Sunday School.....8:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....10:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH Pastor.....9:45 a.m. Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. KINSTON BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor.....9:45 a.m. Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. LIVING WORD PENTECOSTAL CHURCH Rev. Mary Simson, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST Greg Hatcher, Minister Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. LOVE'S WAY CHURCH Rev. Charles K. Jones, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH J. R. Parks, Pastor Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	MILBURY HIS CHURCH OF CHRIST K. B. Williams, Minister Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. MUSTARD SEED FOUNDATION Rev. Jerry Long, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. NEW ABUNDANT LIFE DEL. CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST - ENTERPRISE W. K. Ellison, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. NEW HAVEN ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH Rev. John McRae, Pastor Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. NEW BROCKTON METHODIST CHURCH Rev. Robert Smith, Pastor Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. NEW CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Elbert Smith, Pastor Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. NEW EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH Duane Delmon, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. NEW HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH Perry Hanks, Minister Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.	TAYLOR HILL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Rev. Lloyd Dodge Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH Donnie Marler, Pastor Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor.....9:00 a.m. Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m. WHITEWATER BAPTIST CHURCH Bruce Williams, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m. WISE MILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH Kenneth Hagler, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m. WOODLAND GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Alfred Hester, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m. WOOTEN CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH Mike Medley, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m. ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH Jimmy Maddox, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Mon. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.
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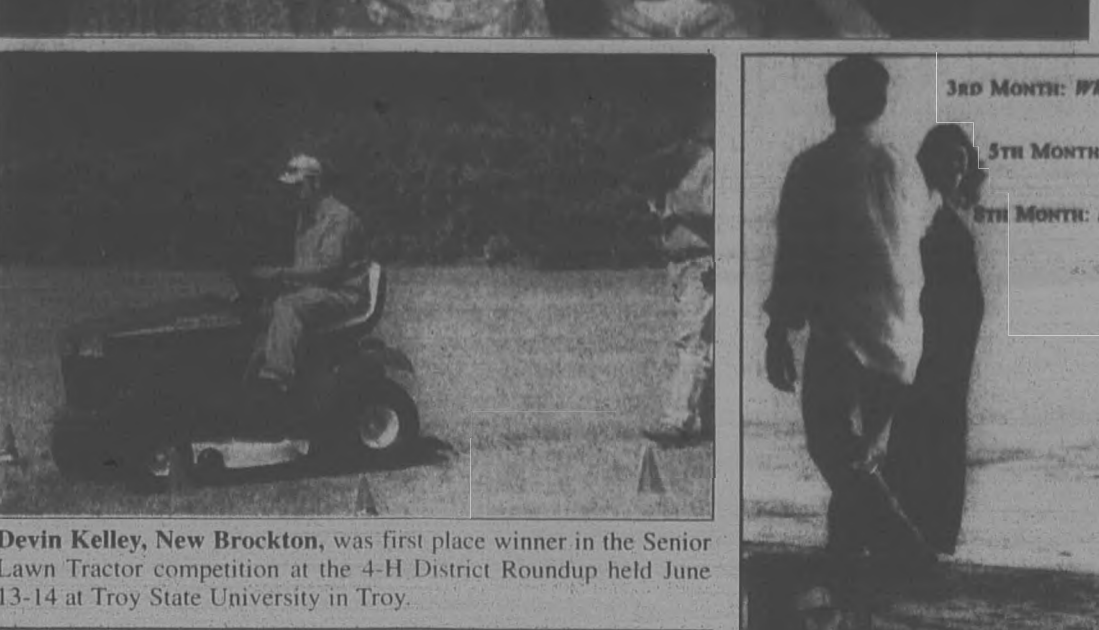
COMMUNITY NEWS



Winners in Junior Chicken-que at the Dothan District 4-H Roundup, held June 13-14 at Troy State University in Troy, were: First Place - John Maddox, Zion Chapel; Second Place - Marese Thomas, Pike County.

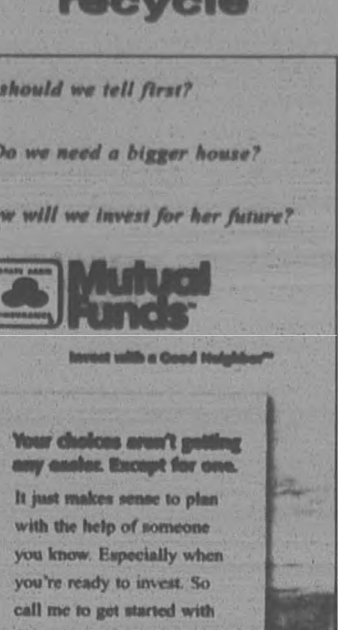


Winners in the Junior Division Plant and Soil Science Exhibit at the Dothan District 4-H Roundup, held June 13-14 at Troy State University in Troy, were: First Place - Erin Byrd, Covington County; Second Place - Matthew Gates, Pike County; Third Place - Rebecca Thompson, Zion Chapel.



Devin Kelley, New Brockton, was first place winner in the Senior Lawn Tractor competition at the 4-H District Roundup held June 13-14 at Troy State University in Troy.

Picture to the left: Winners in the Junior Division Fashion Revue at the Dothan District 4-H Roundup, held June 13-14 at Troy State University in Troy, were: First Place - Christy Young, Barbour County; Second Place - Leana Vinson, Zion Chapel; Third Place - Emily Killough, Covington County, and Angelina Teel, Pike County.



Devin Kelley, New Brockton, was first place winner in the Senior Lawn Tractor competition at the 4-H District Roundup held June 13-14 at Troy State University in Troy.

NOTICE:

ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB will meet Monday, July 15, at 7 p.m. in the boy's locker room at Elba High School. All members are encouraged to attend.

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SPORTS

Views from...

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our youngest has been playing softball at the school or in the rec leagues since late February, and while she was sad the season ended last week with a loss in the sub-district tournament in Troy, she admitted over the weekend that she was looking forward to sleeping late, going to the pool and raiding the refrigerator. With only a month left before the beginning of school, I hope she gets in all the fun she has missed.

SWINGS AND MISSES...

*** The all-star season is almost over, and while it hasn't been the best of years for the baseball and softball teams from Elba, all the teams practiced hard and played hard, and represented the city well both on and off the field. The Elba Dixie Minor All-Stars competed in Geneva and dropped two close games to the Enterprise teams in the tourney, while the Dixie Youth All-Stars dropped their opener to Enterprise before bouncing back with a win over Hartford. Both Dixie Boys teams dropped two straight, as did the Dixie Pre-Majors, but all the baseball teams battled hard and showed everyone that the boys in Elba know how to play the game. The girls fared a little better in all-star action as the Angels and Belles both posted two wins, while the Ponytails dropped two straight. The Belles placed second behind Troy, and the Angels placed third behind Enterprise and Andalusia. Not bad considering this is only the second year the Elba girls have been playing fast pitch. The Elba All-Star teams may not have posted the best win-loss record around. However, when you look and see the teams our teams compete against, the win-loss record may not be a true indication of just how good our teams really were. In baseball, the losses have been to teams from Enterprise, Troy, Greenville, Luverne, and Daleville, while in softball the losses were to teams from Troy, Enterprise and Luverne. Luverne is the only city even close to the same size of Elba. So, maybe some of the losses were because of who we played, and not how we played. Good job teams!

*** Ronald McKinnon will be back in town this week to conduct his fourth annual football camp, and once again the camp is free for all who want to come out and learn a little about the game of football. Ronald holds free camps in Decatur, Phoenix, Arizona and Elba, and always enjoys his camp in Elba a little more than the others because it gives him the chance to meet a lot of his friends and help the youngsters that are just starting out. Being a pro football player is a full time job, but Ronald always finds time to come home and let everyone know he remembers where he grew up.

*** In closing...with the summer baseball and softball leagues winding down, I guess next week the focus will shift to the upcoming high school football season. The schedules have been completed and the players and coaches are working hard to get ready for the opening of camp, which is less than a month away. Hey, ready or not, the kickoff of the 2002 season is just around the corner.

ELBA CITY POOL

Hours of operation:

Monday - Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday - Friday	12:00 - 6:00
Saturday	10:00 - 6:00
Sunday	1:00 - 5:00

Admission:

Adults \$2 Children \$1

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Contact: James E. Grimes @ Ph. No. 897-2333

Fall twice to Troy

Elba Dixie Belles settle for second

The Elba Dixie Belles All-Stars competed in the 2002 Dixie Belles Fast-Pitch Softball Sub-District Tournament last week in Troy and claimed two wins in four games to place second in the six-team tournament. The Troy All-Stars went undefeated in five games to take the tourney championship, followed in order by Elba, Opp, Andalusia, Greenville and Luverne.

"We were disappointed in not winning the tournament and know we could have played better," said Belles coach Ricky Mularz, "but it was quite an accomplishment when you consider we were playing in a tournament for girls ages 13-15, and we had nine girls age 13 and three age 14. There was no doubt the girls gave it all they had, and that is all you can ask. I am proud of everyone of them!"

The Elba All-Stars opened the tournament against Luverne and combined 13 hits with 9 walks to claim a lopsided 20-5 win, in five innings. Valerie Hutcherson got 3 hits and scored 2 runs in the opening two innings to spark Elba a quick 13-2 lead. Summer Stricklin added 2 hits and scored 2 runs in the second inning to help the All-Stars take command, while Krystan Parker added a two-run double and Heather Reeves drew two walks and scored twice in the big 10-run second inning. Elba put the game away in the top of the fifth with a six-run outburst that was keyed by the hitting of Melanie Mularz and Krystan Parker. Valerie Hutcherson had 3 hits and scored 2 runs in the sixth at the plate, while Krystan Parker added 2 hits and scored 3 runs. Summer Stricklin added 2 hits and scored 2 runs and Becky Stinson added 1 hit and scored 3 runs. Stephanie Baxley got the win as she allowed four runs on two hits, while walking one and striking out six.

The Elba All-Stars dropped into the losers bracket with a 9-4 loss to the host Troy All-Stars. Elba jumped ahead early 1-0 on an RBI double by Becky Stinson and was tied at 2-2 in the second after Summer Stricklin walked and later scored on a fielder's choice off the bat of Jennifer Hilyer. However, Troy took advantage of shaky fielding by the Elba defense and pushed across six unearned runs to take a 6-2 lead after five innings. Becky Stinson singled and later scored on an RBI single by Stephanie Baxley as Elba cut the lead to 6-3 in the sixth, only

to see Troy add three runs in its half of the seventh to move on top 9-3. Heather Reeves walked and came around to score in the seventh to pull Elba within 9-4, but that was as close as the All-Stars could get as they took the loss. Becky Stinson had 2 hits and scored 1 run to lead Elba at the plate, while Stephanie Baxley added 2 hits and Haley Stinson had 1 hit. Melanie Mularz was the hard luck loser on the mound as she allowed no earned runs, but was victimized by nine errors. Mularz limited Troy to six hits, while walking one and striking out three.

The Elba All-Stars kept their title hopes alive with an exciting 9-6 win over the Andalusia All-Stars in the finals of the losers bracket. Elba jumped out to an early 1-0 lead when Melanie Mularz drew a walk, stole second and third and later scored on an RBI single by Becky Stinson. Andalusia pulled even at 1-1 in the second, but Elba bounced right back and plated two runs in the third to regain the lead at 3-1. A walk to Jennifer Hilyer started the third inning rally, while Valerie Hutcherson reached on an error and both later scored on an error off the bat of Becky Stinson and an RBI single by Krystan Parker. The Elba All-Stars continued their rally in the fourth inning and scored five runs to take a



big 8-1 advantage. A two-out single by Haley Stinson ignited the Elba outburst, while Melanie Mularz came through with a two-run single and Becky Stinson delivered a two-run double that helped Elba move ahead 8-1. Andalusia combined two hits with three walks and two errors to cut the Elba lead to 8-5 in the bottom of the fourth, and added a lone run in the fifth to pull within 8-6. Hannah Manning walked and later scored on a fielder's choice in the top of the sixth as Elba extended its lead to 9-6, while the Elba defense came through late as short-stop Melanie Mularz turned an unassisted double-play in the sixth and Krystan Parker made a diving over the shoulder catch in right field in the seventh to preserve the hard fought 9-6 win. Becky Stinson had 2 hits and knocked in 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Melanie Mularz added 1 hit and scored 2 runs and Haley Stinson added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Krystan Parker added 1 hit and Jennifer Hilyer drew two walks and scored 2 runs. Stephanie Baxley got the win as she pitched seven innings and allowed six runs on three hits, while walking nine and striking out six.

The Elba All-Stars won their tournament run come to an abrupt end with a 22-7 loss to Troy in the championship game. Elba moved on top 1-0 in the first when Melanie Mularz drew a walk, stole second and third and scored on a sacrifice fly by Becky Stinson. However, Troy took command early as it scored the next fifteen runs of the game thanks to four hits, seven walks and seven errors, to take a 15-1 lead. Elba refused to quit and bounced back to score four runs in the top of the third to cut the lead to 15-5. Heather Reeves and Valerie Hutcherson were both hit by pitches to open the inning, while Melanie Mularz followed with a single to drive in Reeves and Haley Stinson and Summer Stricklin both came through with two out hits to help Elba battle back. Heather Reeves walked and scored on an RBI single by Melanie Mularz in the fourth, while Haley Stinson walked and later scored on a single by Kayla Miller to account for the final two Elba runs. Melanie Mularz got 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Haley Stinson added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Krystan Parker added 1 hit and Jennifer Hilyer drew two walks and scored 2 runs. Stephanie Baxley got the win as she pitched seven innings and allowed six runs on three hits, while walking nine and striking out six.

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Football and cheerleader registration now underway for upcoming season

Youth football registration has been extended in Elba until July 15 for all boys and girls ages 7-12. Teams will be divided into Midget (ages 7-8), Tee-ball (ages 9-10) and Pee-Wee (ages 11-12), with players age being based upon their age on August 1, 2002. All players that register during the sign-up period will be guaranteed a spot on a team roster, while all players that register after the deadline will be added to a team only if that team had not reached its limit of players. Registration fee is \$20 per player, and equipment may be rented from the Recreation Department for \$20 for the season.

Practice will begin the first week of August, with the opening games set for the first week in September. The season will consist of seven games and all games will be played on Saturday nights, with half of the games to be played in other cities. Registration for youth football cheerleaders in Elba will be held from June 15-July 1, at the Elba Recreation Center. Cheerleader registration is for the fall youth football program, and is being held early to help parents and squad mothers order cheerleader uniforms and supplies for those that plan to cheer during the 2002 season. The

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Let's Go...

Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist



Check water temperature to catch more fish

Many factors determine where fish congregate and how aggressively they strike in a body of water. Water temperature is one of the most important variables to consider when deciding where to fish.

Since fish are cold blooded, their metabolism is regulated by water temperature. Fish are much more sensitive to a temperature change in their environment than warm blooded animals, and even a slight water temperature change can make them change locations and feeding habits.

Just as humans seek relief from extreme hot or cold, fish do likewise. They tend to congregate in sections of streams and lakes where the temperature is close to their comfort zone. Largemouth Bass and panfish are comfortable in 70-degree water. When the water temperature rises or falls 5 or 6 degrees above or below this level, fish will often seek a new location with a more compatible comfort zone. During extreme hot or cold weather, the ideal comfort zone may not exist anywhere in a body of water. In such cases, fish tend to congregate where water temperatures are the least uncomfortable. For example, the water temperature in a shallow farm pond may exceed the comfort zone of a bass, but if the pond has lily pads or other aquatic vegetation, the temperature under the vegetation can be several degrees cooler than in open shallow water. Shade from docks, overhanging tree branches and moving to deeper water will put fish closer to their comfort zone.

Use a water thermometer to find water temperatures at various depths that are nearer a fish's comfort zone. Many fishermen keep a daily journal to record weather conditions, temperature and other factors. Say water temperature is 75 degrees and you have made a notation in your journal of where you found fish on a previous trip when water temperature was similar. Just revisit that spot and you may start catching fish.

Different seasons also dictate different optimum times to be on the water. During summertime, fish feed most actively early in the morning because the water has all night to cool. Conversely, during cooler months of spring and fall, midafternoon can be the best because the sun has had time to raise the water temperature a few degrees.

Locating submerged spring holes or small streams running into bodies of water can also produce a honey hole. Since spring water has a relatively constant temperature year round, it will be cooler than surrounding water during summertime. Fish tend to congregate and feed actively near spring holes.

Experienced anglers have found that slowing down the retrieve usually works better when water temperatures are high. Since fish metabolism becomes sluggish and they don't strike aggressively, a slow retrieve may be more productive.

Try a water thermometer next time the fishing is slow. You just may find it works sometimes. Even if it doesn't work every time, your observing fishing buddies will think you really know what you are doing!

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Dr. Bhagwan D. Bang is relocating his pediatric practice to Opp, Alabama, as of July 1, 2002

He will continue to accept Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama, Medicaid, PHCS, Marsh Advantage and United Health Care. He will now accept Tri-Care.

He will have privileges at Mizell Memorial Hospital as well as Andalusia Regional Hospital.

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At Elba High School

Ronald McKinnon Football Camp set for Friday

The fourth annual Ronald McKinnon Football Camp will be held on Friday, July 12, from 9:00-11:00 AM at Tiger Stadium on the campus of Elba High School.

The camp is for players ages 8-18 and is free, with all campers to receive free t-shirts. Players should wear football cleats and shorts, and be prepared to learn the fundamentals of their positions.

Ronald McKinnon is a graduate of Elba High School and is presently a member of the

Volleyball camp set for Elba July 22-25 at Elba Hi

The Elba Volleyball Camp 2002 will be held on July 22-25 at the Elba High School gymnasium, with Lady Tiger Coach Amelia Rhoades as the clinician.

Session 1 will be held each day from 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon, and will consist of beginning skills and techniques of volleyball for girls in grades 4-7. Session 2 will be held daily from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM, and will include basic skills and techniques of volleyball for girls in grades 8-9, and intermediate and advanced skills, techniques and strategies of volleyball for girls in grades 10-12.

A mini-tournament will be held on July 25, with parents invited to attend beginning at 10:00 AM.

The cost of the camp is \$60 per person, and checks should be made payable to Coach Amelia Rhoades. For more information, contact Coach Rhoades at 897-2266 (school) or 565-3240 (home). Checks may be mailed to Amelia Rhoades, 1817 County Road 464, Kinross, Alabama 36453.

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Volume 106, Number 5

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 18, 2002

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Insert

County emergency providers encourage residents to properly display home address

by Linda Hodge, Editor

A joint press conference held Tuesday morning, July 16, at the Enterprise Courthouse targeted not only the people of Coffee County but anyone interested in improving response time for emergency service providers. Agencies involved with the press conference included the Coffee County Sheriff's Office, Coffee County E-911 board, Coffee County Fire Department, Coffee County Firefighters Association, Coffee County Volunteer Fire Department, and the Enterprise Rescue Squad.

The signs are highly visible during the day or night and contain a reflective material on both sides. It is fade resistant which will allow it to last for years and it comes with pre-drilled holes for mounting. The signs are 18" x 24" and are made of aluminum. A sign can be purchased for \$15. An additional \$3 can be added for a post to mount the sign if a person does not already have one somewhere to place it.

"We hope this program will help us, but we also hope it will help those who are willing to address their location and help us find them quicker in an emergency situation," said Moates.

Webb said one of the biggest complaints his office receives concerning the E-911 address system is that people who have lived at the same place for many years feel everyone knows

them. However, he said this is not the case. "Everybody doesn't know where you live, and we need this program to assist our emergency personnel," he said. Driscoll said his department is very committed to the program, and he feels sure the Tri-Communities Volunteer Fire Department will offer the signs for years to come. "This is how bad we need this program," he said. "The members of the Tri-Communities Fire Department will even put the sign up for anyone interested in purchasing one if they reside in Coffee County."

Driscoll said he encourages anyone interested in purchasing one of these signs to check with their local fire department, and if that department does not have one to check with the Tri-Communities Volunteer Fire Department.

Also, he said anyone interested in further details or to order a sign can call him at home at 347-5160.

"We hope this will benefit the residents of Coffee County, as

Please See SIGN, Page 3



Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates (left) speaks during a joint press conference held Tuesday, July 16, concerning the importance of properly displaying home addresses and the use of the county's E-911 addresses. Agencies involved with the press conference included the Coffee County Sheriff's Office, Coffee County E-911 board, Coffee County Firefighters Association and Coffee County emergency medical services. Also speaking during the press conference were Steve Todd, a member of the Enterprise Rescue Squad; Tim Driscoll, president of the Coffee County Firefighters Association; and Charles Webb, chairman of the Coffee County E-911 board.

Gov. Siegelman awards \$298,000 to battle drugs in Coffee and Pike counties

Governor Don Siegelman last week awarded \$298,000 to continue the battle against illegal drug use and distribution in Coffee and Pike counties.

Siegelman notified Pike County Commission Chairman Karen Berry that funding for the 12th Judicial Circuit Drug and Violent Crime Task Force had been approved. Local funding of \$99,333 is being added to the grant.

"This program sends out a strong message that trafficking, distribution and use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated," Siegelman said. "The 12th Judicial Circuit Drug and Violent Crime Task Force is successfully sending out the message that if you deal or do drugs, you will pay the price."

The task force is a coordinated effort among sheriff's departments in Pike and Coffee counties.

"These will greatly enhance our arrival time if you need us," said Steve Todd, a member of

the district attorney's office and a municipal and two campus police departments. Police departments involved are Troy, Enterprise, Elba, Brundidge, New Brockton, Kinston, Troy

State University and Enterprise State Junior College.

Last year, the task force arrested 387 people in 424 cases, mostly involving possession or distribution of marijuana,

methamphetamines and powder and crack cocaine. The task force has been geared to also address violent crimes. Task force officials say drugs are associated with more than 85 percent of the violent crimes in the circuit.

Siegelman awarded the grant from funds made available to the state through a program of the U.S. Department of Justice

associated with these type drugs.

An officer with the task force asked that his name not be used due to his ongoing field work, said many of today's users of methamphetamines are former crack users. If a drug user buys the same amount of methamphetamine and crack cocaine, the officer said the user will get a high that lasts 10-12 hours from the methamphetamine. He added that the same amount of crack will give only a high of 15-30 minutes.

For drug users, the officer said this seems like an appealing characteristic; however, a closer look at methamphetamine might create a different outlook.

"I would say it is the most mobile drug to create as far as a lab goes," the officer said. "When most people think of a lab, they imagine a room filled with beakers, but that is not the case with methamphetamine."

He said a meth lab can be in a gym bag, back pack, etc. He even said manufacturers can use their vehicle for the meth lab.

"The really scary thing about this is that people can be living next to a meth lab and not realize it," he said. "And, more than likely most people already have many of the ingredients used to manufacture meth in their home."

Between the hardware store, grocery store and Wal-Mart, the officer said a person can get everything needed to manufacture methamphetamine.

"You don't have to go to a specialty store to get the ingredients," he said. "However, you won't find any ingredients used to manufacture methamphetamine that's not a poison or highly flammable."

As a matter of fact, he said all the ingredients used in the manufacture of meth include warning labels on the containers. These warnings range from "Danger! Flammable Liquid and Vapor" to "Harmful or fatal if swallowed."

Some of these type ingredients include: Red Devil Lye,

acetone, denatured alcohol, naphtha, muriatic acid and lighter fluid.

On a positive note, the officer said many businesses have caught on to this growing trend and will notify law enforcement when they feel someone is buying the products to manufacture the drug; however, the downside to this is that the drug manufacturers also recognize this and purchase the items at different stores so they do not look suspicious.

Theoretically, a well-disciplined manufacturer and user that cooked only for himself and didn't sell the product would never get caught," the officer said.

Another danger addressed by the officer concerning methamphetamine was the product itself. With the type products used to create the drug, he said it is a given that the product must go through a cleaning process to create a pure form without the chemicals.

He said dope that is not clean could give the user iodine poisoning which causes sores. The sores found on the body of a methamphetamine user are a result of the acid and other chemicals used to create the drug as they burn the body from inside out.

"Every day this epidemic becomes larger and larger," the officer said. "Our only hope is to continue to work and fight to prevent more and more people from becoming involved with drugs. One of our best avenues to achieving this is to educate people about the dangers of methamphetamine and other drugs."

On Tuesday of this week, a joint press release from law enforcement agencies and elected officials of Coffee and Pike counties involved with the task force expressed the gratitude of those officials to Governor Don Siegelman for the approval of \$298,000 for the continued

Please See DRUG, Page 3

Homecoming ceremony held for New Brockton National Guard unit

A Homecoming Ceremony for the Alabama Army National Guard's 100th Engineer Detachment was held at the New Brockton National Guard armory on Sunday, July 14, at 2:30 p.m.

The unit returned recently from a six-month deployment to Bosnia where they provided topographic products for American forces in the Bosnian peacekeeping mission. This ceremony marked the first time all unit members were together for a drill since their return.

Several state and local officials took part in the brief ceremony including the Hon. Charles B. Cole, mayor of New Brockton, who spoke to the soldiers and their family members present.

May Gen. Edwin Wright, commander of the 62nd Troop Command, Montgomery, and Col. Carey Thompson, commander of the 1169th Engineer Group in Huntsville were present along with Lt. Col. Bobby Sailors, commander of the 1203rd Engineer Battalion in Dothan. The 62nd, 1169th and 1203rd are the higher headquarters for the 100th.

The following day, Monday, July 15, another detachment of five personnel from the 1002nd and 1303rd Engineer Detachments from New Brockton were mobilized to provide support to the 12th rota-



The contents of a meth lab confiscated by the 12th Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force are pictured above. This particular lab was being contained in a gym bag when officers captured the manufacturer.

NOTICE

The Elba City Board of Education will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 29, 2002 at 12:30 p.m. and the regular board meeting Tuesday, July 30, 2002 at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of presenting the system-wide budget including Federal Programs, At-Risk funds, and Technology funds. The meetings will be held at Elba City Board office at 131 Tiger Drive in Elba, Ala. Budget forms will be available at the board office prior to the meetings.

COFFEE COUNTY FARMERS FEDERATION The annual meeting of the Coffee County Farmers Federation will be Friday, July 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the community room at the extension office complex in New Brockton. All members are encouraged to attend.

COFFEE COUNTY JUMPSTART The Coffee County Schools (Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel) announce Jumpstart for Monday and Tuesday, July 29 & 30, from 8-11 a.m. Parents are asked to bring their child to the school library on Monday, July 29, and remain for a meeting with the principal and their child's teacher.

ELBA HIGH SCHOOL NEWS The schedule for Elba High students to pick up schedules, purchase parking permits and use lockers for the coming school year is as follows: Monday, July 29 - Seniors; Tuesday, July 30 - Juniors; Wednesday, July 31 - Sophomores and Freshmen; Thursday, August 1 - Eighth grade. Office hours for this week will be 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. 7th grade orientation will be Thursday, Aug. 1, at 6 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Students and parents are encouraged to attend. Students will pick up schedules, rent lockers and establish meal accounts. They will also have a guided tour of the high school.